

Message Text

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MEEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS HELD MAY 1 TO REVIEW
PLANNING FOR CULCON JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING. ANSWERS TO
DEPARTMENT QUESTIONS FOLLOW:

1. ONE RESULT OF THIRD U.S.-JAPAN NEWSPAPER CONFERENCE
RECOMMENDATION THAT JAPAN ESTABLISH A FOREIGN PRESS CENTER,
PASSED TO CABINET SECRETARY BY SHIMBUN KYOKAI IN MARCH 1973,
WAS THE FOREIGN PRESS CENTER OPENED IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
LAST YEAR. CENTER IS PRESENTLY LIMITED IN SERVICE BUT WHEN NEW
JAPAN PRESS CENTER BUILDING IS COMPLETED NEXT YEAR THE FOREIGN
PRESS CENTER WILL BE RELOCATED THERE AND EXPANDED. WE ARE
NOT AWARE OF ANY RECENT SISTER-CITY JOURNALIST EXCHANGES;
JUST SISTER STATION AFFILIATIONS.

2. THOUGH JAPANESE STUDIES MISSION TO THE U.S. WAS
PROPOSED AT CULCON VII, NO PLANS HERE AND GAIMUSHO NOT
ESPECIALLY INTERESTED. THIS IDEA SHOULD BE DEVELOPED
FURTHER BY JAPANESE STUDIES JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE. IF
REALLY DESIRED, IT SHOULD BE PUT OVER MORE SERIOUSLY AT
HAWAII MEETING. GAIMUSHO WULD THEN CONSIDER ORGANIZING AND
FUNDING A "CULTURAL MISSION" TYPE GROUP TOUR TO THE U.S.

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3. WE HAVE EXPLORED JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IDEA INFORMALLY WITH JAPANESE. GAIMUSHO FAILS TO SEE STRONG REASONS FOR ANY JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, STATING THAT PRESENT PROCEDURES AND EMBASSY CHANNELS ARE ADQUATE AND ANOTHER "SUB" COMMITTEE WOULD BE AN ENCUMBRANCE. IF WE WISH TO PUSH THIS PROPOSAL, WE SHALL HAVE TO TALK IT OUT AT JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING TO GET JAPANESE MEMBERS SUPPORT. OUR PROPOSAL WAS AN ATTEMPT TO GIVE A MEANS OF CONTINUING OR PERIODIC ACTION TO THE TWO COMMITTEES. WE THOUGHT SUCH A THREE PERSON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON EACH SIDE WOULD BE TAKEN FROM WITHIN EACH PANEL. THE PANELS GO OUT OF EXISTENCE BETWEEN VERY RARE MEETINGS. THE SECRETARIATS IN GAIMUSHO AND CU/EA OR JAPAN SOCIETY CAN POLL MEMBERS AT ANY TIME BUT DO NOT HAVE A FORUM FOR CONTINUING REACTION AND CONSULTATION ON CULCON AGENDAS AND OVERALL PLANNING. THIS IS NOT THE SAME AS SUBCOMMITTEE WORK, WHERE SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMEN ARE IN DIRECT CONTACT ON PROJECTS THEY ARE PURSUING TOGETHER. BELIEVE JIM MORLEY MADE A SMILAR SUGGESTION TO OURS AT LAST CULCON. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF JAPANESE RELUCTANCE TO FURTHER OVER-FORMALIZE, WE SHOULD PERHAPS DROP THE IDEA AND CONTINUE TO RELY ON GAIMUSHO AND CU/EA TO CONTACT INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS INFORMALLY AS NEEDED.

4. IN GENERAL JAPAN AGREES TO PROPOSAL FOR BRIEF SUMMARY REPORTS FROM EACH SUBCOMMITTEE, BUT NOT LIKELY TO HAVE REPORTS BY JUNE 6. WOULD EXCLUDE JAPANESE SUBCOMMITTEES WHICH HAVE NOT YET MET AND HAVE NO SUBCOMMITTEE-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES TO REPORT.

5. GAIMUSHO PREFERS TO DISCUSS FIXING CULCON VIII DATES WITH AS MANY MEMBERS AS POSSIBLE, AND PERHAPS AGREE AT MEMBERS MEETING IN LATE MAY. DOES DEPT. HAVE DEADLINE FOR MAKING RESERVATIONS? BEFORE HAWAII MEETING?

6. NO REACTION TO PROPOSED ASSESSMENT OF IMPEDIMENTS. THIS WILL BE DISCUSSED AT MAY 17 MEETING IN TOKYO. HOWEVER, EMBASSY PERCEIVES MORE DISINTEREST THAN INTEREST VIBES.

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7. IN PRINCIPLE, JAPAN AGREES TO FORM NEW SUBCOMMITTEE FOR LIBRARY EXCHANGES.

8. DON'T SEE MUCH VALUE IN PURSUING THE ELUSIVE JAPANESE COMMITMENT TO STUDENT COUSELING AT ANOTHER JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING, WHICH SHOLD BE CONCENTRATING ON PREAPRING ISSUES FOR NEXT CULCON. THERE ARE FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES IN VIEWS ON EACH SIDE. THE SUBJECT IS OF LITTLE INTEREST

TO THE JAPANESE AND THERE IS SOME RESENTMENT TO PAST
FRONTAL ATTACKS. HOWEVER, FOR THE LONGER RUN RECORD,
U.S. INTEREST IN STUDENT COUNSELING MIGHT BE MENTIONED
IN PASSING. JAPANESE COULD BE ASKED ABOUT THEIR
PROGRESS IN COUNSELING FOREIGN STUDENTS COMING TO JAPAN
FOR STUDY.

9. JAPANESE PANEL WILL PONDER PROPOSALS FOR JOINT
COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA AND MAY HAVE SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS
AFTER MEETING OF FULL JAPANESE PANEL LATE MAY.

10. IN THE MEANTIME, HERE ARE A FEW OBVIOUS SUBJECTS
FOR CONSIDERATION FOR AGENDA:

- A. ROLES OF SUBCOMMITTEES
- B. STANDING COMMITTEE: JOINT COMMITTEE OR NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE?
- C. ASSESSMENT PROJECT
- D. SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITY IN EDUCATION--A MORE SERIOUS STUDY
OF AVAILABILITY OF EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES IN BOTH COUNTRIES
- E. ORIENTATION OF VISITING SCHOOL TEACHERS, BOTH COUNTRIES
- F. PROGRESS REPORT ON BICENTENNIAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN
STUDIES SPECIALISTS
- G. IMPROVING JAPANESE LANGUAGE STUDY FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS
IN JAPAN
- H. PLANNED DIRECTOR OF SCHOLARS AND INSTITUTIONS
- I. CONSULTATION MISSION TO THE U.S. BY JAPANESE SCHOLARS
- J. POSSIBILITY OF TOURIST ORIENTATION

11. JAPANESE SIDE WILL NOT CONCENTRATE ATTENTION SUB-
STANTIALLY ON CULCON MATTERS UNTIL MEETING OF JAPANESE
JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS LATE MAY. MEETING ON ASSESSMENT
PROPOSAL MAY 17. JAPANESE DO NOT VIEW JOINT COMMITTEE
MEETING AS MINI-CULCON, RAZV EXPECT TO DISCUSS CULCON
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VIII, IDENTIFY AREAS WHERE ATTENTION IS NEEDED, AGREEING
ON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CULCON VIII.

12. BELIEFE TENNY SHOULD PARTICIPATE HAWAII MEETING AS
EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE. POST CAN ABSORB COST. WILL
ADVISE LATER HOW MANY JAPANESE TO EXPECT.

13. PLEASE PREPARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR US TO PASS JAPANESE
ON HAWAII COST SPLITTING ARRANGEMENTS AS USUAL.

14. PLEASE CABLE RESULTS OF AMERICAN PANEL MEETING
MAY 15 IN TIME FOR JAPANESE PANEL MEETING LATE MAY.
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